

Mr. Eisele was born in Muenster, Germany, and followed family tradition by attending high school at the Gymnasium Paulinum, founded over 1,200 years ago. He came to the United States to attend graduate school at UC Berkeley for sociology and history. It was at Berkeley that he met his wife Lisele, and they married in 1968.

From the planting of his first cabernet vines in 1975, Mr. Eisele has maintained an entirely organic vineyard, making him the first vintner to do so in the Napa Valley. He has been a leader in encouraging sustainable and environmentally friendly farming practices, including the maintenance and restoration of riparian corridors and stream-side habitats. In 1991 he joined the growing movement to forever protect beautiful and vital areas of the Napa Valley by donating an open space easement to the Napa County Land Trust.

Mr. Eisele has had a long and successful career as a political activist campaigning on behalf of greater environmental protections for the Napa Valley and its agricultural heritage. He was among the leaders who helped pass Measure A limiting growth and development in unincorporated areas of Napa County. He was also instrumental in passing Measure J which has promoted further protections for agricultural lands around the county.

In addition to his political leadership, Mr. Eisele has been a leader in the local community through his service on numerous boards and committees. He served as President of the Napa County Farm Bureau, the Napa Valley Grape Growers, and the Greenbelt Alliance, which has promoted the extension of environmental protections around the Bay Area. He also was honored by his peers when he was elected to serve as director and Vice Chair of the California Association of Wine Grape Growers. These positions have allowed Mr. Eisele to express his love of grapes and winemaking while working for the benefit of not just the wine industry, but the greater community.

Madam Speaker, at this time I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking Mr. Volker Eisele for his decades of leadership and environmental stewardship and as a superb spokesman for the wine industry. He is well-deserving of the honor being bestowed on him by the Napa Sierra Club, and we thank him for his service.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION OF KAREN E. HALLIDAY

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 14, 2007

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Karen Halliday, as she retires as Las Positas College president, after nearly 35 years of teaching and serving students in the California Community College System.

Karen Halliday began teaching as an adjunct faculty member in Learning Disabilities and Special Education at various Bay Area universities. As a faculty member and Learning Disabilities Specialist at De Anza College in Cupertino, she helped develop the first Learning Disabilities program in higher education in California. She later became the director of the Educational Diagnostic Center at De Anza College.

In 1987, Karen Halliday was the first faculty member to receive the Foothill-De Anza Community College Teacher of the Year Award. In 1988, she joined the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office in Sacramento, as the Specialist for the Disabled Students Program and Services.

In 1989, Karen Halliday became the Vice President of Student Services at Las Positas. In 2002, she was named president of Las Positas College. During her tenure, she successfully led the college through the passage of Measure B, a \$498 million district facilities bond.

In 2003, thanks to her encouragement and guidance, the Las Positas College Foundation was created to "foster growth and success, both in its students and in the communities it serves." Later that year, the foundation was granted 501(c)3 status.

Karen Halliday has been a member of the Executive Board for the Association of California Community College Administrators and the Chair of the Legislative Commission for the California League of Community Colleges. She has authored several publications, along with numerous Board of Governors Agenda Items related to Matriculation, DSPS, and Student Services.

As Karen Halliday retires, I would like to thank her for her dedication to higher education in our community, and her contribution to the field of disabled students' services. I wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

IN CELEBRATION OF ALICE BERNICE HILL

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 14, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise to draw attention to the life of a remarkable woman, who despite all her illnesses lived a wonderful life. Alice Bernice Hill was afflicted with asthma and other diseases early in her life, yet through all her ailments lived past 85.

Born in Harlem Hospital on December 1, 1919, Alice was sent to the West Indies for "two years, one month and eight days" due to her severe illnesses. She never had a lot of money, and had even less when on disability, and still she was able to support herself.

In her early years, Alice was forced to join the workforce to support her family, as required by the welfare program. She later rose through the ranks and became a union administrator, with groups like the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and the United Auto Workers. Through union courses at Cornell University, she obtained a bachelor's degree in labor relations.

Her efforts to refuse to let her ailments cripple her saved her life. Surviving a stroke, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and arthritis, lived on to watch her brother Arthur, six nieces and nephews, two grandchildren and one grandnephew grow.

Truly a woman of great dignity and honor, Alice is deserving of this recognition for her strength, intelligence, and compassion. I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing the life of Alice Bernice Hill and her relentless strength.

TRIBUTE TO MOTHER'S DAY

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 14, 2007

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, yesterday, mothers from across the Nation were besieged with flowers, candy, homemade cards, and gifts in celebration of Mother's Day. As we all take a moment to honor the women in our lives, it is important for Congress to do the same. For the past several years, the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act has been stalled in the Congress. This critical legislation would authorize a research program at the National Institutes of Health to study the potential links between breast cancer and the environment. It would also include consumer advocates in the peer review and programmatic review process. While it is generally believed that the environment plays some role in the development of breast cancer, the extent of that role remains a mystery. Less than 30 percent of breast cancers are explained by known risk factors, which means that up to 70 percent of those who suffer are still searching for answers.

As with other cancers, if we know what causes it, we can do so much more to prevent it from ever occurring. On this Mother's Day, let's pass the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act for our moms, for our daughters and future moms-to-be, and for everyone who has ever been touched by a loved one with breast cancer. It is time to celebrate the women in our lives with more than pink flowers and pajamas; it is time to celebrate them with the honor and commitment to medical research that will soon save their lives.

TRIBUTE TO THE MERRITT ES- TATE WINERY FOR ITS CONTIN- UED EXCELLENCE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 14, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Merritt Estate Winery, located in Forestville, NY. Merritt Estate Winery recently was awarded a gold medal for their Bella Rosa at the San Diego International Wine Competition. Their Chautauqua Niagara vintage was awarded a silver medal in the competition.

Merritt Estate Winery is run by a father and son duo that have dedicated themselves to their small vineyard and their fruit which has resulted in their award winning wines. The winery was created in 1976 by William Merritt, who has had the estate in his family since the 1800's. Merritt Estates Bella Rosa was awarded the gold medal at the 24th annual San Diego International Wine Competition. The awards won by Merritt Estate are the result of hard work and dedication that have resulted in wines that rival some of the best in the world.

Western New York is home to the largest continuous acreage of concord grapes in the world. The regional grape industry contributes \$3.3 billion in economic value to the New York State economy each year. As a member of the Wine and Grape Caucus, I am proud that